Welcome!

Native American Enrollment Surpasses 600

Native American enrollment at Colorado State University has surpassed the 600 mark and reached an all time high of 662 undergraduate and graduate students. Since 2003 Native American enrollment has increased by 164% from 250 to 662. Of those enrolled for fall 2016, 67% are classified as resident and 34% are non-resident. Forty percent are first generation students. Top majors include business administration, psychology, health and exercise science, and biology.

All Nations Leadership Retreat

The 13th annual Leadership Retreat was a weekend event held September 30th - October 2nd, 2016 at the YMCA in Estes Park, Colorado. A combined number of 37 students from the Native American Cultural Center and the Asian Pacific American Cultural Center attended the 2016 Leadership Retreat.

The retreat succeeded in building community and developing leadership skills for the students who participated. The activities and workshops provided students with the necessary tools to think about their values, passions, and how they plan to make a change in their community.

These activities were able to build off one another and resulted in a relevant, concise, and cohesive message. Professors Dr. Eric Ishiwata and Dr. Doreen Martinez separated the group into individual offices and provided helpful ways to encourage students to begin thinking about the role of identity and culture in leadership and the ways of working effectively in a community.

Every year, this retreat is successful in building collaboration between the Asian Pacific American and Native American Cultural Centers.
Native American Heritage Month

Native American Heritage Month kicked off in November 2016 with a variety of programs and events for all students at CSU. The purpose of Heritage Month is to focus on sharing the knowledge and culture behind Native American heritage. The 34th Annual AISES Pow Wow started the celebration. The following weeks were filled with a variety of programs including lectures with prominent leaders in our community, the Duhesa Art Gallery Reception, the annual Harvest Dinner, and a revisit of the Laramie Foothills Bison Conservation herd that was released last year. Each year, the celebration expands as more events accumulate.

34th Annual AISES Pow Wow

One of the largest events of the month was the 34th annual AISES Pow Wow which featured dancers, drum groups, and cultural food in an effort to increase awareness of Native American Cultural at Colorado State University. The celebration includes Pow Wow 101, a kickoff at the Lory Student Center, and finally the all day pow wow. The week had an attendance of around 1500 people.

As one of the eight Student Diversity Programs and Services here at CSU, NACC is centered around four primary advocacy and service areas which include recruitment, retention, graduation and community outreach. If you are involved with the office, you know we truly value our outreach and recruitment programs, especially those that cater to the Indigenous populations here in the U.S.

Dr. Adrienne Keene

Dr. Adrienne Keene is a Native scholar, writer, blogger, and activist, and is passionate about reframing how the world sees contemporary Native cultures. As the keynote speaker, she gave a lecture on Native Appropriations, Indigenous Social Media, and Responding to Racism on college campuses with an attendance of nearly 300 people. She is the creator and author of Native Appropriations, a blog discussing cultural appropriation and stereotypes of Native people in fashion, film, music, and other forms of pop culture.

As students come back from winter break, most are already looking forward to the next break or, should we say, summer break? If you are one of the students counting down till the next break, here are a couple of exciting opportunities you should count on!

- If you are interested in traveling to the four corners with the Little Shop of Physics & NACC over spring break, come speak with Ty or Tiffani!
- For summer mentor positions with the Native STEM Institute or the Native Education Forum, please email Tiffani
Native Women’s Circle

Native Women’s Circle is a program organized by the Native American Cultural Center that nurtures group, individual, and cultural support for NACC women. Students and community members are both welcome to attend. This program is a collaborative space where all attendees determine what cultural crafts and activities will take place in the upcoming semester.

This semester, Native Women’s Circle beaded feather earrings with the guidance of Leslee Lovato, an Assistant Director in the Office of Admissions. During Native American Heritage Month, Women’s Circle hosted the viewing and critical discussion of the film Two Spirits. Throughout the semester, Women’s Circle also attended events together, shucked corn for the annual Harvest Dinner, and ended the semester by making seasonal ornaments together.

If there are questions about getting involved, please contact this year’s coordinator Arielle Quintana at ariequintana1@gmail.com or contact the Native American Cultural Center. To keep updated on all activities that Native Women’s Circle will be doing this semester, like us on Facebook at Native Women’s Circle at NACC CSU.

Harvest Dinner

Ron Hall and Roe Bubar, owners of Arikara Farm, grew traditional food and turkey and provided it for the Harvest dinner for the community. This was the third annual harvest dinner, with almost 150 community members in attendance.

Duquesa Art Gallery

The Duquesa Art Gallery, displayed on the third floor of the Lory Student Center, featured 10 Native American artists addressing different aspects of the appropriation of Native culture. The reception this year presented Jacob Meders, one of the featured artists.

Bison: One Year Later

One year ago, North American Bison were welcomed back to Northern Colorado’s Soapstone Prairie Natural Area and Red Mountain Open Space. On November 1st, National Bison Day, we celebrated a successful year, including new additions to the herd.

Native American Cultural Center
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Colorado State University
Upcoming Spring/Summer Events for 2017

February - Black History Month (calendar of events: http://www.baacc.colostate.edu)
March - Women’s History Month (calendar of events: http://www.wgac.colostate.edu)
March 12-16 (Spring Break) - K12 STEM Outreach w/ Little Shop of Physics to Four Corners
March 24-26 - Denver March Pow Wow, Denver
April - Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month (calendar of events: http://apacc.colostate.edu)
April 8 & 9 - NCIPA Spring Pow Wow, Fort Collins
June 11-17 - Native American STEM Institute
July 31 - August 5 - Native Education Forum

NACC is open from 8:00am - 5:00pm during the summer!

Colorado State University is an equal access/equal opportunity university.

Message From the Assistant Director

Halito! Greetings from the Native American Cultural Center! I want to extend a warm welcome back to all of our returning students, and a welcome to CSU to our new and transfer students. In this issue of the Indigenous Reader, we are highlighting various programs and activities that occurred during the fall semester, including many exciting events that took place during Native American Heritage Month in November. Our other core programs are as great as ever this semester, which include the North Star Peer Mentoring Program, the Eagle Feather Tutoring program, and Native Women’s Circle. These programs offer amazing services and outreach to new and returning students in the CSU community.

You will also read about some great upcoming opportunities for involvement which include our annual Spring Break outreach trips to different Native American communities in Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona, as well as upcoming summer involvement opportunities. We hope you find some great ways to connect to the office and the CSU community. Please come by and say hello, and I hope you enjoy reading the about the events and activities to kick-off a great semester!

Best,
Tiffani Kelly

Like us on Facebook: Colorado State University Native American Cultural Center